

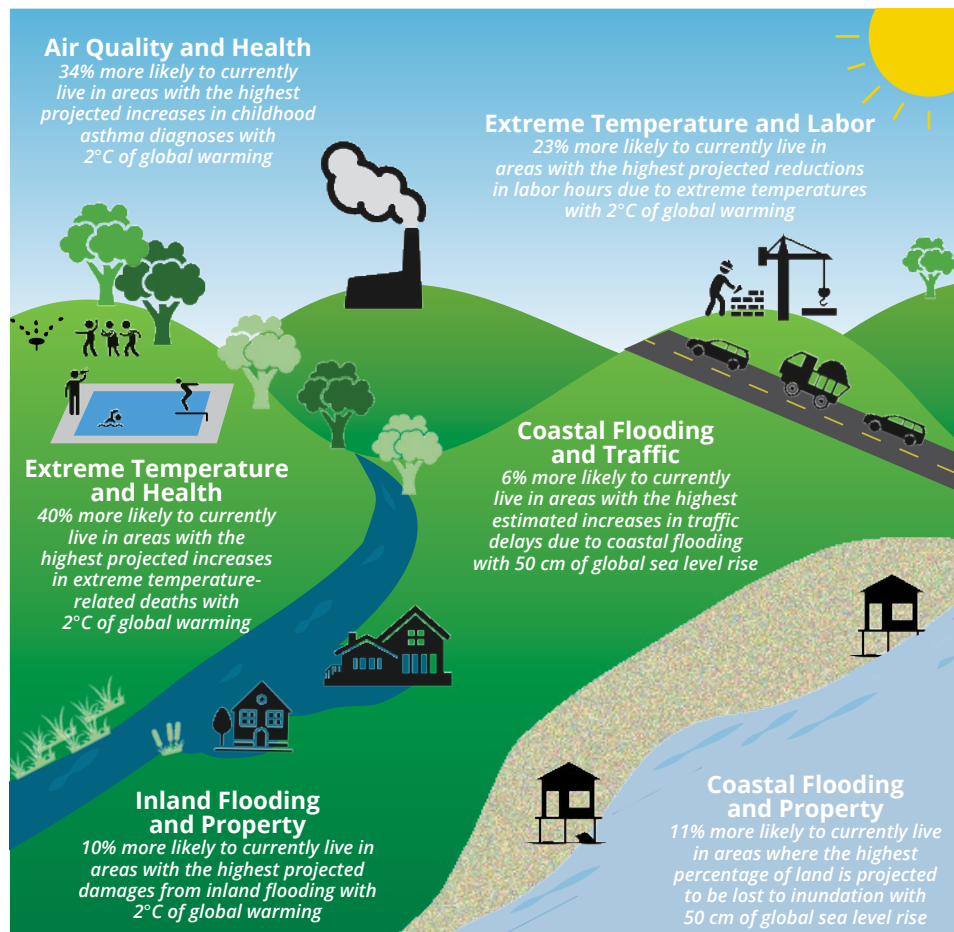
## Findings on Disproportionate Risks of Climate Change to Black and African American Individuals

Climate change impacts will likely increase in both frequency and magnitude over the coming decades across the United States, with risks to human health, the economy, and the environment. Importantly, these risks are not equally distributed across the population. Understanding the potential disproportionate impacts on socially vulnerable groups is critical for developing effective strategies to address these risks.

This report, [\*Climate Change and Social Vulnerability in the United States: A Focus on Six Impacts\*](#), contributes to a better understanding of the degree to which four socially vulnerable populations—defined based on income, educational attainment, race and ethnicity, and age—may be more exposed to the highest impacts of climate change in six categories:

- Air Quality and Health;
- Extreme Temperature and Health;
- Extreme Temperature and Labor;
- Coastal Flooding and Traffic;
- Coastal Flooding and Property; and
- Inland Flooding and Property.

The report analyzes risks to specific racial and ethnic groups relative to individuals outside of each group (the “reference” populations) in scenarios with 2°C of global warming or 50 cm of global sea level rise. Black and African American individuals are found to be more likely than non-Black and non-African American individuals to currently live in areas



**This report estimates the likelihood that Black and African American individuals currently live in areas where the impacts of climate change are projected to be highest, compared to non-Black and non-African American individuals. Results are based on current demographic distributions and projected changes in climate hazards.**

with the highest projected impacts of climate change in all six impact categories analyzed. In particular, Black and African American individuals are more likely to live in areas with:

- the highest increases in childhood asthma diagnoses from climate-driven changes in PM<sub>2.5</sub>;
- the highest increases in mortality rates due to climate-driven

changes in extreme temperatures; and

- the highest rates of labor hour losses for weather-exposed workers due to extreme temperatures.

For more information, please refer to the report and accompanying [appendices](#).